## The National Tribune.

ONE DOLLAR A YEAR.

WASHINGTON, D. C., THURSDAY, JANUARY 18, 1906.

VOL. XXIV-NO. 16-WHOLE NO. 1274.

OPENING OF THE MISSISSIPPI.

By JOHN McELROY.

CHAPTER XLI.

attack was singularly disjointed. This was a constant characteristic of Banks's operations. He was never able to coordinate the maneuvers of his subordinates. Though he had only 13,000 men in four divisions operating upon a limited area, he could not bring about anything like concert of action, and the blows were delivered hours apart. This incoherence was in strongest contrast with the prompt and certain unity of movement of Gen. Grant's army of 45,000 over a front of 40 or 50 miles. A very small part of Banks's mismanagement would have insured the destruc-

May 27 are very meager. Gen. Banks's Paine took ground on Weitzel's left.

northeast, with the Baton Rouge road leading to the southward, and inter-

between the various bodies.

May 25 Gen. Weitzel moved up to the sugar-house on the Telegraph road Conn. to make a diversion. The official reports as to the action of near a bridge over Foster's Creek. Gen. Grover was north of the Clinton

steep bluff, which subsequently became the Confederate intrenchments. the site of what was called Siege Bat-

"The Colored Troops Fought Nobly."

ruth rushed to the assistance of the cause of the astounding delay. It was infantry. Van Zandt led the attack a long and fretful ride through the with Dwight's old brigade, followed jungles and over obstructions, and closely by Weitzel's Brigade under Col. when he reached Sherman he found Thomas. Col. Paine formed his division in support. The woods were found division lying idle on its arms. There The Response to It in Every Village by Crude Volunteers, Who and acted as if the highest object of to be full of Confederates, who opened was not a man mounted and not a a spiteful fire upon the advance. Van sign of activity. There was an angry Zandt's men deployed behind the trees storm between the two officers, for and replied, while Col. Thomas pushed Banks's disappointment was extreme. his brigade through the intervals and In reputation and previous experideployed the 160th N. Y. on the right ence Gen. Sherman stood far above any N. Y., while Van Zandt's men, seeking a superb artillery officer, and the easier paths, drifted toward the right battery he commanded in Mexico had brush which flourish there upon the and uncovered Paine, who promptly achieved a fame equal to that of Capt. A MURDEROUS REPULSE.

A Miserably Disjointed Attack—Sherman's Unaccountable Delay—Hours of Interval Between Attacks That Should reconnoissance. Everything about him ing cover behind the trees from the his date being May 17, 1861. He had

had to be learned by bushwhacking enemy's lines similarly covered, slowly through the woods and driving back his skirmishers step by step.

The connoissance. Everything about him ling cover bening the trees from the date of managed a Department on the South Atlantic Coast, and his campaign which his skirmishers step by step. which he at once began to fortify, and was to wait for the engineers to indiwhich later became known as Fort cate the point of attack. He had been mediate between them the Plains road. Babcock, in honor of the Lieutenant- opposed to the assault until the posi-At the point where Gen. Banks began the formation of his line of investment these roads were miles apart and no crossways between them. As his army a wide circle and support Paine's left. There is a dispute as to the terms of

> Hot with anger, Banks rode back to tery No. 6. Grover tried to help his his headquarters, and wrote out an ormen by sending the 12th Me. and 13th der for his Chief-of-Staff, Brig.-Gen. George L. Andrews, to supersede Sherman in command of the division. An-

mounted and surrounded by his whole turity. staff and escort in the center of his brigade. It was a magnificent specta-

The Blunder of Old-Fegyism.

Here was illustrated again that vice North. of old-fogyism which cost the Union army countless lives and which brought disaster on so many fields. Brilliant as Gen. Sherman had been as an artilas Gen. Sherman had been as an artillery officer, when he rose to the command of a division his mind reverted to the lessons taught him in the books, and he made his attack in the old-fashioned European way, with solid masses moving deliberately out into the open, with himself as the most conspicuous figure in the array and his numerous escort inviting the concentrated fire of the Confederate artillery and musketry. It was precisely the bilinger of the Confederate artillery and musketry. It was precisely the bilinger of the Confederate artillery as the most constructed fire of the Confederate artillery and musketry. It was precisely the bilinger of the State authorities. No call or preparation was made at that time for the short the want of something to do. The Union the want of something to do. The Union of the want of something to do. The Union the want of something to do. The Union of the want of

Nickerson was on the right with his brigade deployed in column of regiments. The 14th Ms., thrown out as skirmishers, was in polyance, and behind it came in succession the 24th Ms. and 177th and 165th N. Y., each in line of battle. To the left was Neal Dow's Brigade in similar formation, the 6th Mich. in front, followed by the 15th N. H., 26th Conn. and 128th N. Y. Behind It was a lit was already evident to their breasts, but they succeeding the subordinates. This ceremony completed the subordinates, but they were impatient of the restraint and confinement of camp, and vent was given to their feelings in reference to desertion. Two men who were charged with the crime of desertion. Two men who were charged with the crime of desertion were in some way turned over to them for trial by drum-head court-martial by enlisted men, a proceeding not exactly in accordance to Army Regulations, as at the time we were not regulating our their services of a single night it might be well for the way turned over to them for trial by drum-head court-martial by enlisted men, a proceeding not exactly in accordance to Army Regulations, as at that time we were not regulating our their services of a single night it might be well from the exposures and experiences of a single night in their breasts, but they were impation to the restraint and confinement of camp, and vent was given to their feelings in reference to desertion. Two men who were charged with the crime of desertion were in some two their feelings in reference to desertion. Two men who were charged with the crime of desertion were in some two their feelings in reference to desertion. Two men who were charged with the crime of camp, and their fr

under the storm of shrapnel and musuntil they came to a high, strong fence. over under a hurtling tempest of bula natural fort with a ditch in front, through the next cornfield to encounter attack. A little after 7 o'clock Lieut.- This passed, a third was encountered.

> ment, and shortly after Lieut.-Col. Carr. wounded. now had them at short range and were

The fall of Sherman and Neal Dow had made Nickerson commander of the the brief assault the 1st La. Native division, but he was not aware of it, brigade to be reached.

This mattered little, for everyone the battle was nearly four hours old, gan to fall back from the blazing brush- ernor had made a call upon the State, had experience of the danger of a pro-Grover, Paine and Weitzel stopped heaps. Nickerson's men retired a little and he now made a call upon the pa- tracted stay from camp, especially if cers were of the same material as the awhile to listen for sounds of Sher- ways and lay down, while Dow's men, triotism of his community to help res- without leave.

As soon as Andrews learned of the would call upon some flery, eloquent

where the continuition mounts of approximate the continuition of the service of the continuition of the post. See Sec. Composition of the service of the continuition of the service of the service of the continuition of the service servation until the moment of approach. land before Sherman and Augur was had lost heavily, and the other com- further orders. No further orders came, pale their ineffectual fires before such was senior or superior, why, the Lord of a Commissary, who would not let

By EUGENE POWELL, next the 8th Vt., 12th Conn. and 75th officer in the command. He had been Captain, 4th Ohio; Lieutenant-Colonel, 66th Ohio; Colonel, 193d Ohio, and Brevet like a river, it keeping its name because Brigadier-General.

THE TOCSIN OF WAR.

Afterward Became the Best of Soldiers.

President Lincoln's proclamation call- afterward learned and endured, and ng for the services of 75,000 volunteers our arms were crowned with correfor the term of three months to recover sponding success. and protect the property of the Govern-Have Been Simultaneous—Gallantry of Men and Officers and Sickening Losses.

In spite of Gen. Banks's orders for a minultaneous assault upon the works at daybreak of the morning of May 27, the attack was singularly disjointed.

Have Been Simultaneous—Gallantry of the Governor Made and Potter the property of the Governor Made and Potter The Made and Potter the Governor Made and Potter the property of the Governor Made and Potter the Made and Potter The Made and Potter the Governor Made and Pot his call upon the State accordingly. In for duty at Camp Jackson, in the the meantime offers of services were suburbs of Columbus, O., April 18, 1861. being tendered the Governor from every conceivable source. Ambitious against the camp was merely an inclosure ic, energetic and able to have filled any position that might have been conferred conceivable source. Ambitious aspir- used as a park, and since called Goodthese roads were miles apart and no crossways between them. As his army pressed in it was separated in the most confusing way by these forests of magniles and deep, impassable ravines, which shut off all ready communication between the various bodies.

25th Conn. to make their way around a dispute as to the terms of these, but certainly everybody else in the army understood that he was to move forward before all the others, and open the battle by a direct attack upon between the various bodies.

25th Conn. to make their way around a dispute as to the terms of these, but certainly everybody else in the capacity of Brigadier-General and Major-during the day, and were marched to different public institutions within the open the battle by a direct attack upon between the various bodies.

25th Conn. to make their way around a dispute as to the terms of these, but certainly everybody else in the capacity of Brigadier-General and Major-during the day, and were marched to different public institutions within the open the battle by a direct attack upon between the various bodies. Lieutenant-General and General were city for their meals. Some were pro-unknown, or had been forgotten by these aspirants, else these would have the Blind and Lunatic Asylums, and the near Cincinnati. been claimed also. Added to such officers of these institutions displayed on the arrival of our train at the site claims was generally the assurance that wonderful activity and resources in prothey also possessed the ability and in- viding for the troops so suddenly quar- evident to us that no preparations had man in command of the division. Anfluence to raise the whole quota of tered upon them. These troops were been made for our coming; at least, not drews mounted and rode directly to the troops as the law provided for. Others known in camp by nick-names derived with the ceremony and consideration division, accompanied by his Aid, Lieut. of a less demonstrative disposition made from the institution at which they took that we thought were due us as an or-

form only would volunteers be received inder the British had made at New certain written articles, and when 60 Governors could not be seen or felt.

tween the two brigades rode Gen. Sher- organized, as it was already evident that time we were not regulating our man in military state, followed by his that under the call of 13,000 from this action by Army Regulations, but rathcavalcade of staff officers and escort. State there would be many more com- er by our will or disposition. By this le mounted and surrounded by their could not be in the command that was drummed out of camp. This sentence soon ready (without arms or uniforms) was promptly executed, and the excite-As the line emerged from the woods to move by rail for the defense of our ment attending the march throughout

A Satisfied Retrospect.

A Patriotic Town

urity.

At the camp some effort was made
These incidents of that great uprising to have it assume the appearance of life in earnest was enjoyed or endured are merely mentioned as the eccentrici- military order and discipline, but this that night. The company commanders cle, and Andrews, very properly, did ties and oddities of individuals. More of rather a crude order and finding that there was no superior or not deliver his order to Sherman, but sober and serious thoughts, more pracstayed with him to see the result of tical and unselfish purposes, pervaded the attack.

the masses, and rapidly these responses around the inclosure, but no attempt to do, began to direct for themselves, by the loyal people assumed shape and was made while at this camp for drill and in some kind of order managed to began to be felt throughout the entire by companies or the formation of bat-North. by companies or the formation of bat-talions. Everything in this respect was the sinuosities of a rail fence that

by the State authorities. No call or came very irksome to the troops, for first bivouac, rendered necessary by the

day displayed the willing characteristic of the soldier-i. e., love of promotionand succeeded in placing their company their ambition would be to march out and return at the head of their company. But the bullet, exposure and disease soon worked such changes in those ranks that the organizations were preserved because these were very much there was water in it, and these organizations preserved their identity because there were men in them. Soon there were but few of the men who started out; still, the organizations were the same as to letter and number. So is

the river as to name and location. So these changes came much more rapidly then than were dreamed of. My erwise he would have been a man of National reputation, as he was patriotupon him. He died before he actually

Fiske. When he reached the division a tender of their individual services for their meals; as jail-birds, lunatics, blind ganized regiment, and as we felt ought he found it already deployed in mag-nificent array, with Sherman himself leaving position and promotion to fu-

Companies were determined upon as left to the activity and capacity of com-the unit of organization, and in this pany commanders. chanced to be directly in our front on getting out of the cars, the fence itself cany commanders.

Confinement at this camp soon bebeing torn down to make fires for our Orleans, and one which had been resigners were obtained the members met
peated on scores of battlefields with at some convenient hall and elected part of the men was soon made manithan hinted at. Quarters might have almost invariable disaster as the re- the most enthusiastic and martial of fest in insubordination and lawlessness, been erected, supper might have been their number Captain, and then by the Still, the patriotic fires were ever burn- provided; even Lincoln's Administration Nickerson was on the right with his same procedure selected the subordi- ing bright in their breasts, but they was criticised with an abandon that was

With daylight came some kind of order. Word came that provisions were His brigade and regimental officers fol- panies offered than could be accepted, court those men were sentenced to have at hand ready for the men, and comowed his example, and entered the bat- and volunteers were fearful that if they their heads shaved and then be pany commanders were directed to make out a morning report, giving the number of their men present and absent, sick and for duty. Then in acthe Confederate works were crowned National Capital, why, the grandest hol- the camp was intense, as the feeling cordance with such report requisitions with a baleful, volcanic blaze. Sher- iday excursion of the age was gone, and against those culprits was fearfully should be made upon the Commissary man and two of his staff went down gone forever. It was presumed that aroused after such a regular, fair and for rations for the men. Here was an the rule would be observed, in accepting impartial trial, and really it was a re- eye-opener, as it was found that the ketry. Next Brig.-Gen. Neal Dow fell, companies, first come, first served. So lief when the sentinels' bayonets at the Regulations discriminated between the gate were brought down between vol- officers and the men, the Government unteers and deserters. I was afterwards furnishing rations for the men, but the informed that those men had no inten- officers were to purchase for themselves. With satisfaction and interest we can tion of deserting, but had merely taken How to make out a morning report, look back to those first preparations for a longer absence without leave than what it included and what it excluded the war, to those first efforts for the others were taking, and thereby gave was a puzzler; how to make out requimalntenance of this Union, to those the opportunity to their comrades in sitions and where to get them; and the lets, canister and shrapnel balls. Many voluntary offerings, not of good will, of camp to have something to do by try- foolishness of requisitions anyhow. The were shot on the feace in the act of sympathy or of money, but of self, as ing them for desertion. The whole pro- men were here and were hungry. If climbing; many knocked down by a this was what that crisis called for. ceedings were irregular and were a the Quartermaster or Commissary did shot or shell striking the rails and send. First the public meeting, the official moving exhibition of mob violence, with not believe it, why, they could come announcement by the presiding officer its usual irregularities and cruelties, as and count them, and need not take our



that Fort Sumter had been fired upon those proceedings, if they gave any fun word for it. Company commanders dis-

CAMP DENNISON, NEAR CINCINNATI.

now saw clearly that the attack had and had succumbed to the superior to those volunteers, came almost as near cussed and cussed the situation, and failed. No commander could do more power and resources of the South, and giving death to those so-called desert- were sorely vexed at the delay of this with the men than they had done with that President Lincoln had made a call ers. Those men afterwards went into circumlocution officer against whom It had now got to be 10 o'clock, and themselves. With one consent they be- for support upon the Nation, the Gov- the war for the Union. They certainly they had so suddenly stumbled.

Beginning Regimental Organizations. There were at that time about 7,000 tillery. They had as yet gained but lit-the accurate knowledge of the Confed-the division by virtue of the orders he ground and the character of the works, wards on Augur's front and 1,200 yards erate works in their front or the force which were almost hidden from our ob- away on Sherman's front. The cleared by which they were manned. Weitzel for it, and to get it in shape for any shades of Demosthenes would simply as all were without a commission, who torrents of patriotic eloquence as would only knew, and as it is probable it rations go without a requisition. He then burst forth. This is not penned in would not have made any difference He was found to be a very affable and ob-

It was plain to be seen that the offi-

men, as the same troubles irritated about the same way by making use of

## ATTACK AT PORT HUDSON BY THE 1ST LA. COLORED NATIVE GUARDS.

animation during the day. of Gen. Emory, temporarily reduced by treme right of the Union line. an assault was opened upon the works May 25 Weitzel moved forward in anon the center and left of center by the ticipation of the attack, and gained, posed to a flank fire, withdrew to a belt when all of the rest of the guns were

of wood, the skirmishers remaining to follow. close upon the fortifications. "The works are defended by a garof the enemy. The fortifications are the works in his front. very strong and surrounded by a most | Grover with his five regiments was it is almost impossible to comprehend and covering the reserve artillery.

point and from Opelousas. These enemy's cannoniers and silence their troops will be here to-morrow and guns. strengthen our force some 3,000 men. Each division commander was to pro-My effective force on the day of the as- vide his own means for passing the one wounded. sault was about 13,000; that of the ditch, and each formed volunteer ploenemy, within the works, 10 regiments neer detachments, to carry bags of cotof between 500 and 600 each-in all ton, fascines and planks. about 8,000 men-with mounted in- The battle order issued on the 26th fantry outside the works in our rear ended with the emphatic declaration, (2,200), consisting of the 9th and 11th "Port Hudson must be taken to-morregiments of Arkansas troops.

"On the 25th the enemy was com- Railway and advanced across the ravine the left to indicate that Sherman was pelled to abandon his first line of works. of Sandy Creek, occupying a magnolia carrying out his part of the program. Gen. Weitzel's Brigade, which had cov-woods on the crest of a steep hill. Gen. The attack halted for a little because "At 10 o'clock a. m. Weitzel's Brigade, Guards came up from Baton Rouge,

Gen. Sherman was to open the attack on the extreme left, and be suprison much larger than generally rep- ported, if need be, by Grover and Auresented. There appears to be no want gur. Under the cover of this distracof ammunition or provisions on the part tion Weitzel was to force his way into

ravines, woods, plains, and cliffs, which reinforcing either the right or the left Gen. Augur was to hold the center, with Dudley's Brigade forming his right "Six regiments, under command of and Chapin's his left. He was to ad-Col. Chickering, were detailed at Alex- vance during the artillery fire and push andria to guard the train from that out his skirmishers to pick off the

row. "In the assault of the 27th the be- The woods that Weltzel occupied havior of the officers and men was most reached to within 250 yards of the Congallant and left nothing to be desired, federate works. Those where Grover Our limited acquaintance with the was stationed were 450 yards away, 500 alone prevented the capture of the broken up by heavy fences and strong manders had suffered only less so. They

ered our rear in the march from Alex- Augur extended Grover's line through of the exhaustion of the men, and Gen. andria, joined us on the 26th, and on the magnolia forest, and under its cov- Dwight decided to create a diversion the morning of the 27th a general as- er, but in sight of the Confederate in- and develop the strength of the Consault was made upon the fortifications. trenchments. Gen. Sherman came up federates on their extreme left toward The artillery opened fire between 5 and the Baton Rouge road, and formed his the river. He ordered Col. Nelson to 6 o'clock, which was continued with line in a skirt of forest at the edge of move forward with his two colored regopen fields. The 1st and 3d La. Native iments against a part of the Confeder-Guards came up from Baton Rouge, at line on the crest of a steep bluff ate line on the crest of a steep bluff. with the division of Gen. Grover, reduced and were sent beyond the sugar-house This bluff overlooked the low ground siastic courage through the cornfield to about two brigades, and the division near Foster's Creek, making the ex- by the sugar-house where the Telegraph road crossed Foster's Creek, and This had to be torn down or climbed In his hasty arrangements for the was a detached ridge about 400 yards command of Col. Paine, with two regi-command of Col. Paine, with two regi-ments of negro troops, made an assault wing, from which he expected much, Miss., under Col. W. D. Shelby, supupon the right of the enemy's works, of two divisions, under Weitzel. Weit- ported in the rear by six field pieces crossing Sandy Creek and driving him zel's Brigade, under Thomas, and and still farther back by a siege batthrough the wood into his fortifications. Dwight's Brigade, under Van Zandt, tery of eight and 10-inch guns. The fight lasted on this line until 4 were made into a temporary division, to bridge across the creek had been o'clock and was very severely contested. be commanded by Dwight. There reup ustil later in the day, but at 2 o'clock sion beside the two colored regiments. making an exceedingly difficult place to another fence with a similar experience. on the center and left of center by the ticipation of the attack, and gained, divisions under Maj.-Gen. Augur and after sharp resistance by the 9th La., Native Guards to force the crossing of to relate how many men passed all these Brig.-Gen. Sherman. The enemy was a wooded slope, which seemed to offer driven into his works, and our troops a good basis from which to attack the moved up to the fortifications, holding the epposite sides of the parapet with the epposite sides of the parapet with the epposite sides of the parapet with the column neared the creek the Control of the column neared the creek the Control of the strict time negro to be abreast their colors when the latter reached the abatis in front of the can come to soldiers. As the head of the column neared the creek the Control of the column neared the creek the Control of the strict time negro to be abreast their colors when the latter was placed in immediate. the enemy. On the right our troops of Artillery, was placed in immediate the column neared the creek the Constill occupy this position. On the left, command of the reserve artillery, with federates opened fire from the rifference of the column neared the creek the Constillery, with federates opened fire from the rifference of the column neared the creek the Constillery, with federates opened fire from the rifference of the column neared the creek the Constillery, with federates opened fire from the rifference of the column neared the creek the Constillery, with federates opened fire from the rifference of the column neared the creek the Constillery, with federates opened fire from the rifference of the column neared the creek the Constillery, with federates opened fire from the rifference of the column neared the creek the Constillery, with federates opened fire from the rifference of the column neared the creek the Constillery, with federates opened fire from the rifference of the column neared the creek the Constillery, with federates opened fire from the rifference of the column neared the creek the Constillery of the column neared the creek the column neared the column neared the column neared the column neared the column n pits on the bluff, and were followed by while sustaining the colors of his regithe field guns with shell and shrapnel. The negroes pushed forward, and pres- of the same regiment, was severely ently became exposed to an enfilade fire from the columbiads. In spite of this the colored men advanced until was such that the impetus of the charge they came to within 200 yards of the carried them far into the entanglements crest, when suddenly every cannon of the abatis, and though the enemy opened upon them with canister and tore their ranks to fragments. This shooting them down without mercy, intricate tract of country, diversified by to act as circumstances should indicate, was more than flesh and blood could they did not begin to recoil until the stand, and they ran in disorder for dry limbs of the felled trees were set on shelter, but were quickly and easily re- fire by the shells and began to burn formed near the sugar-house and flercely. marched out again, expecting to renew the attack, but no orders came.

Guards lost two officers and 24 men killed and 79 wounded, 105 in all. The 3d La. Native Guards, which had been less exposed, lost six killed and

Sherman's Astounding Delay.

man's attack to guide them in their fu-ture operations, but they heard noth-woods whence they had emerged. that threatened it; and in conclusion he ing except the steady crash of the ar-